progress of the State in the last quarter of the financial year. No such proposal was received from the State Government.

**Annual conference on rural water supply and sanitation**

2419. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Prime Minister while inaugurating Two day annual conference on rural water supply and sanitation warned about severe water shortage in the next few decades and advocated collective action by all State Governments to empower district level institutional structures to handle water supply, fund water recharge activities through NREGA and capacity building of health engineering departments in geo-hydrology so that they are able to appreciate issue of environmental sustainability;

(b) the decision taken in the conference; and

(c) the steps taken to implement them and also to improve the water shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The important issues which were stressed during the conference are as follows:

- State Governments are to ensure sustainability in drinking water sources both surface and ground water to prevent slippage in terms of quality and quantity of drinking water supply;
- Need for effective convergence with other govemment,programmes like NREGA, Water and Soil Conservation, Backward Region Grant Fund (RGF);
- Dovetailing of funds with the grants provided under the XII Finance Commission;
- Promotion of cost-effective technologies and revival of traditional water bodies and drinking water sources; Regular updation of progress on online monitoring system, and Improved data management for planning and implementation of projects.

(c) As a follow up, the following steps have been taken to implement and improve the water shortage:

- The theme document ensuring sustainability of drinking water has already been circulated to all the States.
- The theme document contained several cost effective and traditional technologies for reviving surface water as well as under ground water sources.
- Several brainstorming sessions have been held with State Governments to popularize these technologies.

- A check list of projects have been prepared for including sustainability element in drinking water projects. It has been circulated to the States.
- Several meetings have been held with Departments dealing with programmes such asNREGA, Water and Soil Conservation, BRGF, Xllth Finance Commission to ensure smoother coordination as well as effective dovetailing of funds in the implementation of drinking, water supply projects.
- Intensive training programmes of State engineers and others have been held for improving the quality of on-line reporting by the States on the implementation of the programmes.

**Allocation of outlay in Centrally sponsored programmes**

2420. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the percentage of outlay allocation has been decreased for various Centrally sponsored programmes under his Ministry;

(b) if so, the reasons for the declared hike in allocation of outlay for those programmes; and

(c) the details of percentage in allocation of outlay for those programmes during the last three years. State wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The allocation (Budget Estimates) for various Programmes of this Ministry has increased from Rs. 24480.00 crore during 2005-06 to Rs. 31444.00 crore during 2006-07 and further to Rs. 41060.00 crores during 2007-08.

State-wise allocations under major allocation based schemes of the Ministry of Rural Development during the last two years and current year i.e. 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 are given in the Statement.

**Statement**

*State-wise allocations under major allocation based schemes of the Ministry of Rural Development*

Scheme: Sampooma Gram Rozgar Yojana (SGRY)*

(Rs. in lakh)

| States/ UTs | Central Allocation | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Andhra Pradesh Arunachal | 2813933 | 10903.95 | 3434.48 |
| Pradesh | 152409 | 1403.65 | 1196.71 |

♦200 districts of SGRY submitted in National Rural.